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# The Miami Bulletin

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## HISTORICAL ADDRESSES

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In Connection with the

## CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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# The Centennial Address

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By HENRY MITCHELL MACCRACKEN, D.D., LL.D., '57.

Chancellor New York University.

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In 1899, when Miami University for the first time celebrated her birthday, she told us, and we believed her, that she was seventy-five years old. Today, after ten years, she again remembers her birthday and tells us that she is now one hundred years old. A story is told in Boswell's Life of Johnson that the Doctor was asked by a lady how he came to blunder so badly in a certain definition in his dictionary. Instead of making an elaborate defense, as she expected, he at once answered, "Ignorance, Madam, pure ignorance."

Miami University was not ignorant in 1899 that her college teaching through professors began only seventy-five years before, in 1824, not counting the six years of the Latin Grammar School which had been carried on. But Miami apparently was ignorant, and I am sure most of her alumni were ignorant, that her public teaching as a body corporate really began in the year 1809, when fifteen citizens became a corporation under the name of Miami University. We thank this celebration for teaching us that through a full hundred years Miami has been a power for education and righteousness.

February 17th, 1809, this corporate body began. The mere announcement of this fact to the public constituted the first course of instruction in the name of Miami University. This pledge by the state, of a college, though not fully executed for some years, perhaps went as deep and wrought as mightily upon men's minds as has any course of instruction in any succeeding year in the hundred years of Miami's existence.

Who were the students that received an intellectual stimulus from the fact that a college was incorporated and that its board of corporators was at work? They were the pioneers of southwest Ohio. They were of near a dozen different national stocks, but mainly non-English Puritans. They were largely of Scotch and Scotch-Irish blood, like most of the early graduates of Miami. Out of the twelve names of alumni of the twenty-five classes from 1826 to 1850, who are still alive, ten are Scotch or Scotch-Irish, from McCaughan of 1837, to John McCampbell Heron of 1845, and Andrews Brooks of 1850. Many graduates were of Welch blood, like Chidlaw, Thomas E. Thomas, and Senator Pugh. Others were Huguenot, like the Montforts; or Dutch, like Schenck and Groesbeck; or Palatinate Germans, like Shellabarger and Kumler; or they were of English Virginia blood, like President Benjamin Harrison.

I am naming these early graduates to show what was their lineage. But it was not the graduates whom I meant when I spoke of the earliest pupils of Miami a hundred years ago. It was rather their fathers and their grandfathers. They also received instruction from Miami, though pioneer conditions never permitted them a college career. Of these students of the year 1809, I name twenty citizens in the first Board of Trustees. No man gets more education out of a college than a receptive member of its governing board. Only two of the first twenty trustees of Miami claimed a college diploma. Of thirteen whose birthplace is known, twelve came from Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey, four from each, with one from the north of Ireland. They were as a rule rugged pioneers. There were also "mute inglorious" pupils of Miami in the year 1809. Among them was my own great grandfather, Major Samuel Wilson, and my grandfather, 'Squire John MacCracken, both of them living at that time on their farms in the southeast angle of this County of Butler. To them was also given a certain benefit of educational kind by Miami University. An impact was made by the establishment of a college upon the minds of that first generation, which, through them, deeply affected their children and their children's children.

Miami was the offspring of the highest intellectual aspirations of a fusion of protestant races, mostly of Puritan training, thrown together upon the Ohio frontier. This is the thought I would have fixed in our minds this Centennial Day. Their fathers in large numbers within the century and a half from 1625 to 1775, had become exiles from Europe for conscience's sake. The century and a half before the Revolution was a persecuting age in many lands of Europe—in England, in Scotland, in the north of Ireland, in France, and parts of Germany. Every one of these countries sent congregations of sturdy protestants, who opposed the established religion of the land, in great shiploads to America. They brought their pastors with them.

The sons and grandsons of pioneer immigrants had little except their church connection to save them from decline in both scholarship and morals. The church did not save all of them—for example, the mountaineers of eastern Kentucky and Tennessee. Fifty years of utter neglect of school will sink a family into a class of illiterates. Southwest Ohio was determined not to permit scholarship to perish or even to decay. The first Americans exalted scholarship. When George Washington, a self-educated scholar, retired from the presidency, the people chose presidents for the next quarter century who were all of them college graduates. The people wanted scholars for leaders in church and in state. Miami was an expression of the want.

A picture of conditions a hundred years ago is given in the names that were chosen—Miami and Oxford. The state legislature made the choice. Evidently, as politicians, they wanted to please all the people between the two rivers, the Great Miami and the Little Miami, by making use of the name "Miami," the most popular name of that time. But they thought it important to add a scholastic element and hence the name of Oxford. They meant well, but they would have avoided a double anachronism if they had rather given to the raw village the wild Indian name of Miami and reserved the name Oxford for the college which stood for the trans-

mitted knowledge of the ages. Considering that the first three presidents of the college were Scotchmen—Bishop, Junkin, and McMaster—they might better have called the college Edinburgh or St. Andrews.

I have insisted that Miami began to give college instruction in the year 1809. A year later she had a formal professor or officer at work who extended the educational influence of Miami all the way to the Atlantic Coast. She appointed Rev. John W. Browne, who had been a preacher at Paddy's Run in Butler County for six years, to go as an agent to the eastern states. The Commission named him "A missionary to solicit and receive donations for the use of the institution." The Scotch caution of the trustees was evinced by their promising to pay him \$50 per month and expenses provided he collected it. It thus appears that before Miami was fifteen months old, she appointed a missionary to the eastern states. I was glad to find that not only did the missionary collect his salary and expenses, but he realized in cash, part of which went for apparatus and freight on books, more than \$1,000, besides securing by gift fully a thousand volumes to start a library. The story of this missionary work, which continued through the whole of 1811 and the larger part of 1812, when it was interrupted by war, proves that the missionary's work was educationally a great success. He did mission work at Washington with President and Vice President, with members of the cabinet and of Congress. Most of these, from President down, accepted gratuitous instruction. Only the Ohio Senators, with its one Congressman, that grand pioneer, Jeremiah Morrow, who had been chairman of the Committee which chose this township of Oxford, paid for the missionary lesson each to the extent of \$20. The adventures of Browne as a missionary are fascinating. No subscription missionary, to my knowledge, has excelled him in telling of his sad misses and his good hits. He visited most of the original thirteen states. He got \$10 and two books from old John Adams, at that time out of the presidency for over ten years. I wonder if those two books are still in yonder library.

When the missionary tried the Mayor of Albany, he was warned that there was a city ordinance forbidding the circulation of a subscription book without a vote of the city aldermen under penalty of imprisonment and fine. Like a hero, he answered: "I came to beg and beg I must." He relates that the Mayor smiled, gave him \$10 and wished him success. I am sorry to say that he obtained not so much as a smile or a dollar from Philadelphia or New York, being advised to reserve those towns for a more propitious season, which failed to come on account of the outbreak of the war of 1812.

I have told this story because it presents vividly how a hundred years ago was the day of small things. Near two years of a strong man's life went into that mission to the east. It was almost a tragedy because his travels broke his health. It did not break his spirit for he resumed the arduous toil of a frontier pastor and in that same year, 1812, going to preach in the County of Clermont, lost his life in crossing the Little Miami.

It is plain why a college was not opened till twelve years after this in 1824. It was opened quite soon enough to meet the demands of students. The first five classes after opening averaged only between ten to eleven graduates. Let me give a picture of a student entering nine years after the opening, as it is told by his roommate, who was also his cousin. He says: "John remained at home till past early manhood conducting the farm for the support of his sisters and aged parents. Not till his thirtieth year could he fully seek the knowledge for which he had long thirsted. Appropriating for his education \$260.00, he packed his linen in a couple of handkerchiefs and set out on foot from Greene County for Oxford where he entered subfreshman. Here in five years by strict economy and often teaching a school for three months, he completed his course with the class of 1838. During four years of his time he kept bachelor's hall, being determined to succeed without help from any friend. I am not mistaken as

to the funds at his command apart from his earnings, for the matter was often talked of by us." This picture of how a student lived is a picture of the college course of my own father. Himself a graduate at near forty, he swung to the other extreme when he insisted that his oldest son should graduate before he was seventeen.

The most extended promise in the Scriptures seldom reaches beyond the third and the fourth generation. I come here today representing the fourth generation of my own blood that have been blessed by Miami; the first two, pioneers of this county, the last two born in this county, myself born in this town of Oxford. I bring a tribute of sincere praise and gratitude. Miami never brought anything but unmixed good to us and to ours. Yet Miami never graduated a large class. Never but once did she go above forty, which was the class after my own. Her classes have fallen as low as three or four. The average of her college classes is not above fifteen. If Miami's class had ever fallen to a single member, I suspect she could have answered like the lioness in the fable about her offspring: "Only one, but a lion." Time forbids my telling of the sons of Miami, yet I will venture an anecdote in half a dozen sentences.

A few years since, when John Morely, who is now a conspicuous member of the British Government, was about to leave New York, a dinner was given him on the eve of sailing by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. He planned to have two or three representatives of authorship, journalism, education, science and the like. It proved there were fifteen guests selected on this plan. It gave me, as a son of Oxford, a gratifying moment when looking about the table, I found that one-fifth of the fifteen guests were graduates of Miami. It was a mere accident, but it is one among numberless accidents of a much more important character which have shown that not seldom when a representative place is to be filled, a son of Miami has been chosen to fill it.

The atmosphere today is full of criticism of the college. A corporation has been chartered in New York City with \$300,000 of stock, for the investigation and reorganization of American colleges. What per cent of the stock is water and what per cent wind, has not yet appeared. The college is wounded in the house of its friends, when President Eliot, advertising over his autograph his "five foot shelf of books," allows himself to say: "The faithful and considerate reading of these books will give any man the essentials of a liberal education." If he is right, why maintain a college at Havard merely to give the **nonessentials** of a liberal education. Diseased conditions in our colleges are rankest in big colleges, which are also favorites of fashion. From these they spread, like insects from infected trees. The President of Princeton says: "So far as the colleges go, the side shows have swallowed up the circus and we in the main tent do not know what is going on and I do not know that I want to continue under those conditions as a ringmaster." Here in Miami, I trust the main tent is still the main show. My cure for the malady that afflicts the overgrown college I offered on this platform eighteen years ago. My address was printed by Miami and has this sentence: "The large college which first sees its way to dismissing all its students of its college of arts save the 250 best, will be a greater benefaction to American colleges than Fareweather himself." I have not changed my view. But I would agree that several colleges of like size, each with a distinct faculty, might be cared for by the same corporation side by side.

Miami's college classes today are as large as they ought to be. Supported by the state, Miami has an opportunity for making her undergraduate college an ideal college, restricted perhaps to a hundred freshmen, with a graduating class made up by the survival of the fittest. By its side the normal college also ought to be limited to earnest students. President Benton commends himself to us as the man to organize Miami as

a college of elect students. America has had enough of "elective" students. What the college of America now wants is elect students. New songs are continually made by college boys. A new song is needed for the college corporation and faculty and it ought to picture the ideal college, as Bernard of Cluny pictured the ideal church—as the "home of the elect." The college today needs the ideal, which, I have said, was the ideal of the founders of Miami a hundred years ago, long before a single brick was laid. It was to be Miami, the offspring of the highest intellectual aspirations of chosen people thrown together upon this Ohio frontier.

# The Alumni Luncheon

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## Letters and Responses Commemorative of the Presidential Administrations

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### THE BISHOP ADMINISTRATION.

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Letter by HON. JOHN P. REYNOLDS, '38.

Fellow Alumni of Miami University:

Some of the most pleasant memories of a long life cluster about the three years I passed in attendance at Old (then New) Miami and when summoned to attend this Centennial Celebration and say a few words with "the Bishop Administration" for my subject I forgot the infirmities of age, and at once, my heart said "yes" but my good wife of eighty-seven said "no" and as in all well-regulated families that settled it. Nevertheless I desire to say a few words on that subject and ask indulgence while doing so by letter.

Miami University was born in troublous times. Its chief promoters were members of a religious organization in which a bitter, relentless war was then raging between the members north and south respectively over the status of the negro in the church. The northern section finally prevailed and the first administration was installed with Dr. Robert Hamilton Bishop as the President. The only professors whom I personally knew were Wm. H. McGuffey, John W. Scott and Samuel W. McCracken. They were ministers actively affiliated with the northern section of the Presbyterian Church. Perhaps the most serious embarrassment of this first administration was financial. The endowment, originally ample, had been, by unwise or shortsighted legislation, substantially withdrawn leaving it practically stranded. Whether this

calamity was brought about by its early enemies in the church or by political demagogues or both acting in concert, is not certainly known, but the result was almost a death to the administration then in power and from which the University was a long time recovering—even partially.

Nevertheless there is no reason to believe that the courage of the grand, old Scotchman even for a moment failed. Reared in poverty by a widowed mother large in heart and stalwart in frame, educated partly by charity at the Edinburg University in the free air of Scotland's hills, he came to this country in early life and entered upon his chosen career of preaching and teaching and in middle life was called to the first presidency of Miami University located in the sparsely populated back woods of Southern Ohio and practically without chart or compass.

What did this pioneer administration accomplish? It established Miami University as an educational institution of high class in the minds and hearts of the people of the then central west and thus if not otherwise laid the corner stone true to line and plummet of "Old Miami," which today is without a peer the world over in all that constitutes a modern popular educational institution of the very highest class.

Giants do not grow from pigmy parents.

John P. Reynolds, '38.

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## THE BISHOP ADMINISTRATION.

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Letter by DR. GEORGE L. ANDREW, '41.

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Miami University honors herself in honoring the memory of her first President.

Robert Hamilton Bishop was born in Scotland in 1777, was graduated from Edinburgh University in 1798; after a course of theological study was admitted to the ministry and removed to the United States, then regarded as missionary

ground, in 1802. After a service of several years as minister and teacher in Kentucky he was called to the presidency of Miami University in 1824. The years between the date we celebrate and 1824 had been spent in preparation. The land had been selected, a site had been cleared but the stumps of the primeval forest remained. What was known thenceforward as the Centre Building stood "grand, gloomy and peculiar" and its three story excrescence of a west wing had been erected, and on the first Monday in November, 1824, the college was opened with Dr. Bishop as President, Rev. Wm. Sparrow professor of Ancient Languages, and Rev. John E. Annan professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. The salary of the President was \$800.00 per year and that of the professors \$600.00 each. The President was furnished with what was known for many years as "The Mansion", (which occupied the present site of the Brice Scientific Hall) at a cost of \$150.00, the materials being furnished.

During the early years of his presidency he was president of the Board of Trustees as well as of the faculty, showing his ability to properly bear his double responsibility. His presidency began in 1824 and ended in 1841. "During those sixteen years" (I quote from the Jubilee address of Dr. W. O. Thompson) "the standing and character of Miami University were determined and established. In the first place the roll will show an unusually fine lot of students. They came from a widely distributed territory, but the character of the families sending their sons contributed to the quality of the students. It is worthy of remark that every class from 1824 to 1841 has contributed men who have achieved a national reputation. This was not a mere accident. In these days we hear of hard times and much self-denial. Dr. Bishop in his report of August 1840 said that to that date more than one thousand students had been enrolled, and more than one-half of them had come to college with means of their own creation. This sturdy quality told in the character of the college. This enumeration takes no note of the other hundreds of undergraduates who went forth to take honorable and influential part in the upbuilding of the west and south."

In his teaching he was impressive and suggestive. No one could doubt his sincerity or fail to be impressed with the earnestness with which he declared the teachings of history. He dealt largely in general principles and endeavored by repetition and varied illustration to fix those principles upon the minds of his pupils. Whilst more a logician than a rhetorician he keenly appreciated eloquent statement. I distinctly remember the reading he gave our class from the Edinburgh Review of that wonderful antithetic description of the Puritan of the Cromwellian era by Macaulay in his article on Milton. With individuals or even dynasties he had little concern except as they affected great interests. With him the teaching of all history was summed up in a single sentence, which he frequently quoted in the class room,—"Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." In his theology he was ever ready to

"assert eternal Providence

And justify the ways of God to man."

Whilst expressing himself clearly and forcibly, he could do so without offense to those of different opinions. His anti-slavery opinions were well known to the southern students, but this difference did not lessen their respect for him. He was an anti-slavery man but not an abolitionist, and to the end of his presidency the south continued to send a large proportion of its students to Miami, Dr. Bishop being the chief attraction.

His government was paternal. Calls to the Doctor's room were not uncommon, but cases of discipline were rare. This predominance of the *suaviter in modo* over the *fortiter in re* was objected to by many and doubtless contributed to the shortening of his presidency. The mildness of his rule was as much the result of conviction as of a loving disposition. No one ever thought that it resulted from a weakness of character.

In his church relations during the period noted for the bitterness of its disputes and the general tendency to cleavage he was always the moderate in dogma and the apostle of

peace. A scripture that was often quoted in his teachings and devotions showed his idea of what constitutes Christian character: "the wisdom which is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits without partiality and without hypocrisy."

Miami has been fortunate in the character of its presidents, and the administration of Dr. Bishop will not suffer when compared with that of any of his successors.

George L. Andrew, M. U. 1841.

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## THE JUNKIN-MACMASTER ADMINISTRATIONS.

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Response by HON. JOHN W. NOBLE, LL.D., '45-'49.  
Ex-Secretary of the Interior.

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Although Miami University was established by an act of the General Assembly of Ohio, dated February 7, 1809, and the first meeting of the Board of Trustees was on June 7th of that same year, the College was not opened until November, 1824, and the first commencement was in September, 1826. From 1824 to 1841 Reverend Doctor Robert Hamilton Bishop was the President. He was followed, from 1841 to 1845 by the Reverend Doctor George Junkin; and from 1845 to 1849, Erasmus Darwin MacMaster was President.

Coming to the preparatory department, and being in its second class in 1844, and remaining until I had passed through the Junior year, ending in 1849, it was my privilege to know, as a youth might know at the distance separating the President's high office from a student's place, each of these noble men. The character and attainments of Doctor Bishop were those of a rugged Scotchman, a graduate of Edinburgh University, a profound thinker, and a teacher of mental and moral philosophy; of history and political science. He was an instructor who induced the student to think over the problems presented either by the text book or by teacher; and to become capable of asserting or defending his conclusions, whether at examination or in debate.

Doctor Junkin was also an eminent divine and professor of philosophy, and under him, there were many men trained who became not only useful but distinguished citizens. Not to go into detail there must be mentioned one who has unfalteringly served his Alma Mater as President of its Board of Trustees through many useful years, and for whom is named the University's Gymnasium, John Williamson Herron, a member of Ohio's Constitutional Convention, an eminent lawyer and a public spirited citizen, he has filled all stations in public and domestic life with ability and fidelity. Mr. Herron has also contributed the first lady of the land to the White House where she now presides, as did Miami's learned professor, John W. Scott, bestow a daughter, who was the wife of Benjamin Harrison, himself a graduate of Miami. So while President Taft is, as he says, only "a son-in-law" of Miami, President Harrison was both *de facto et de jure*.

A classmate, fellow graduate and life long friend of Herron was my brother Henry Clay Noble to whose attachment to this college I owe my own opportunity to have walked its academic halls,—where my love for him has intensified that for "Old Miami" herself.

Doctor MacMaster, next called to the Presidency, was a scholar of most profound erudition; his intellectual attainments were inherited and cultivated. His father, Gilbert MacMaster, was a radical inquirer into and an able writer upon first principles as they related to either the Church or the State. Among his works are, "A Defense of Some of the Fundamental Doctrines of Christianity," "The Shorter Catechism Analysed," "An Apology for the Book of Psalms," and the "Moral Character of Civil Government." There was also another son, Alphonsus, who became a journalist, and was so radical in his political opinions during the war for the Union and subsequently that he made a great deal of trouble and suffering for himself, but which he seemed rather to court and expect than to avoid to any degree. But President MacMaster, on the contrary, while a redoubtable debater and uncompromising opponent, with an intellect as keen and flexible

as a Damascus blade, was most conservative. He stood on guard against the many innovations advancing in his day against received doctrine and established custom. Upon the problems relating to what curriculum a college should have, (to cite one question he ably discussed) he was not content that the old course of Latin, Greek, belles lettres, mental and moral philosophy and mathematics should be invaded, by the study of the application of the principles and discoveries of modern science to agriculture, by manual training, and kindred subjects in a college course, but contended if such were to be taught at all, it was to be in some other institution than a college or university. The question is one that remains in many minds, but time has practically decided the debate against his contention. The course of studies now in our universities, whether of the several States, or the older ones of the east, embrace what Doctor MacMaster sought to exclude. While his own teaching was confined to moral philosophy and systematic theology, his nature was polemic, and to the field of debate on religious and educational subjects he brought a mind trained by thought and contest, resourceful in erudition, and equipped by every talent. His opponents on these subjects, became more or less personal ones, and this led to a career active indeed, but involving many changes of locality in service.

He was born in 1806, graduated at Union College and was ordained a pastor in the Presbyterian Church at Ballston, New York, in 1831. He was called in 1838 to the presidency of the colleges at South Hanover and after at Madison, Indiana; conducted those institutions with somewhat variable fortune, and resigned to become president of Miami University in 1845. He resigned from this in 1849; and after a professorship in the Theological Seminary at New Albany, Indiana, from 1849 to 1857 inclusive, went, in 1866, to the Theological Seminary of the North West at Chicago, and remained there until his death, which occurred in September of that year.

It is no doubt the fact that Doctor MacMaster's career and, indeed, his disposition, not to say temper, were much affected by the great change which in his day was beginning to

to be felt, as to the purposes of college education, and because of the numerous small colleges that sprang up in the great West, where short and practical terms of study were given in place of the established four years classical curriculum that had theretofore been accepted as the only correct or desirable course of study. It resulted from this and kindred views that the several institutions with which he was connected were scant of students, and that discipline was met by a spirit of defiance, because resort by the recalcitrant student could be had to some other college deemed just as good. Miami University passed through this ordeal under Doctor Mac Master and when the great "snow ball rebellion" occurred in 1848-9 out of her small number of students she lost far the greater part, many of whom went to an institution, even, in another state. This was followed by the President's resignation, which was accompanied by an address on Commencement Day, August 9, 1849, wherein he states and defends the proposition that a college is not established to, itself and alone, prepare one for a liberal profession; still less to do the work of elementary or common schools; and, least of all, to give special knowledge for manual and industrial occupations of life; but that its specific and proper object is, along with the formation of a good, moral, gentlemanly and Christian character, to give to youth that training in liberal studies of higher grade than those of the common school and academies, and the consequent mental discipline which constitutes the fitting preparation for entering the strictly professional studies of medicine, theology, law, government or general literature, science and philosophy, and opposes, as he declares, the inordinate devotion of the great mass of the community to mere material objects, and the consequent limited desire for that liberal education which it is the object of a college to give.

Miami University was closed for a while after Doctor MacMaster's departure, but for a short period, and it was because of this, and this only that I did not graduate here instead of at Yale. This college, however, soon recuperated, and has since and is now presenting the practical reply to the older president's argument. The combination of the studies

under a close discipline and severe exaction of thoroughness is giving mental training with more varied knowledge, and, without excluding the "litterae humaniores," does not demand their predominating influence in the University course of study and work.

Doctor MacMaster was, it has been said by his biographer, "one of the strongest men in the Presbyterian Church of his day. He was a Christian gentleman characterized by profound humility and a loving sympathy for all men. He had manly independence of thought, but along with it a broad and generous charity, which never failed." Let us add, he was a patriot and a far-seeing statesman in his field of study and teaching, and with many of our leaders of thought in those early days and to whom we should ever remain grateful he clearly foresaw the greatness of our Western States, and the essential need there was for the enlightenment and liberal culture of their citizens to prepare them for the civil duties they were soon to be called on to perform, and which they have so well done and are now doing.

I offer you, sirs, the following toast—

The Reverend Doctor Erasmus Darwin MacMaster. President of Miami University, during the four years from 1845 to 1849 inclusive, who ever sought to devote the results of education and mental discipline to the advancement of religion and morality and to the elevation of American Citizenship.

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## THE ANDERSON ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by COL. D. W. McCLUNG, '54.

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At this late hour I am not to be expected to say much. I do not feel inclined to say much. I came to this University in 1851. I left it when Dr. Anderson left. There was no connection between those two events except that I was through here, and so was he.

The Class of '51 had I think seven members when they graduated. I believe two of them are still living. The Class of '52 had seventeen members, four of whom are still living—all preachers. That shows what steady habits will do in lengthening our days.

The Class of '53 had forty-two members, of whom seven are now living.

The Class of '54 had twenty-eight members. Eleven of these are still in the land of the living; showing that whatever else we lacked we had at least the gift of continuance. A great storm passed over this school. The causes of it I need not speak of. They have been alluded to. But you will see from the size of the classes named that during my time the school was advancing and recovering its popularity, and the students were year by year increasing. They were turning out more and more graduates each year.

We thought well of Dr. Anderson, our President. He was an admirable man to his boys. I cannot speak of him as a great scholar or a great thinker, or a great administrator; but he was a genial fatherly man who held pastoral relations with the pupils about here and managed to get along with them very well.

There were four other teachers. Think, my friends, of a great American University with a President and four teachers, how that does sound! Yet that was the fact. That was all we had here at that time. The life here was not very strenuous. If a man was not inclined to work very hard he was not severely dealt with, unless he became so lazy or was so fearfully stupid that he had to get out of the way—and then he was buried somewhere, we never knew where. The kindness of our President and faculty never exposed the dead bodies of such students here to the public gaze. They disappeared, and that was all we knew about them.

Now in regard to some other things, and first the school itself. I remember the strenuous times we had upon the playground very well. I do not think that has been referred to as much today as it ought to be; for what healthful

boy of from sixteen to twenty-two years of age is there who does not derive a very great deal of his interest in college life as well as much of his strength and growth from the playground? I remember how strenuously we played football out here on this space toward the main building. We had no captain, we had no umpire, we had no rules except one, and that was to get the ball over the line in the quickest possible way; and I must confess, my brothers, that when we played football in those days the ball did not get all the kicks.

What was the want of the school? Its great and growing want was more teachers. The President and four professors went by the name of the mighty Miami University. They had the same name that the University of Oxford has, the University of Cambridge, or the University of Berlin, where they have scores of colleges at each University, and a full equipment of teachers for each college. Yet it was called a University. Why was this enormous name attached to so small a unit? Simply because of the niggardliness of the State of Ohio. The child had been laid at their door without cost to them, and for shame's sake they could not reject it; but they never made any provision whatever for it, and it looked in my times as if it was doomed to a starveling immortality.

Well, better times came. More intelligent and more enlightened times have come to the State of Ohio. I do not know exactly what brought it about. I do not know what potent influences have inspired this State to look after the child which it once had solemnly adopted, but so it is. Its teaching forces will continue to grow, and it will progress in a wise and sensible way under the leadership of able and consecrated men, until a real University will stand here that will rival in the coming times the great universities of Europe; that shall pursue every particle of human knowledge; that shall investigate everywhere along all lines; that shall proclaim truth reverently to the world, that shall ever proclaim truth until it is found out to be untrue.

The great vice of teaching in our day is that so many things are proposed as true that are not so. We want some-

thing better than that. We want a reverent, a cautious thoughtful investigation of everything that pertains to human welfare; but when a school of learning gets above the character of the world, it is time to abolish it.

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## THE HALL ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by HON. ANDREW L. HARRIS, LL. D., '60.  
Ex-Governor of Ohio.

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I am sure that it would afford me great pleasure to respond to the toast to the administration of Dr. John W. Hall, if I felt equal to the occasion. As has been stated by the Toastmaster, he was a fatherly as well as a scholarly man; when I came here to enter this institution in 1858, the first man that I made acquaintance with was its President, Dr. Hall. I came with fear and trembling. I looked upon a Senior at that time as being something more than an ordinary man. I looked upon a Professor as being so far above me that I could only approach him with fear and trembling. But when I met the President of this institution I found him to be a kindly and pleasant gentleman, all my fear disappeared, and from that time I felt at home.

Dr. Hall was called upon to be the President of Miami University by the action of the Board of Trustees in September, 1854. There were some difficulties surrounding the college at that time. There was a difference of opinion among the trustees as to the policy of the institution. There was a strong minority that favored some innovation in its curriculum, one of which was an elective course substituting German and French for Greek, which was established previous to the departure of Dr. Anderson. It was not popular from some cause, and in 1858 it was withdrawn. The same minority strongly urged the recognition of athletic training. This too was tried, but owing to the fact that the University was not well stocked with money and not able to build and equip a gymnasium, and not able to employ an instructor, that

also was finally abandoned. This minority held Dr. Hall responsible for these failures, and in 1860 at the close of the year they criticized the administration of Dr. Hall. Dr. Hall vigorously defended himself; and I must say that in that defense he certainly had the best of the argument.

The Committee on the State of the University concluded that it was time for it to investigate. They did investigate, and after a most thorough and complete examination of the facts they found in almost every particular in favor of Dr. Hall. They found that instead of the University languishing, instead of its not keeping up with the country, as was charged, that it was in the most successful condition that it had ever been in. They found that the average annual attendance at the University was 225, while in the successful administration of Dr. Anderson it was only 169. They found that the debt that was hanging over this institution at the time when Dr. Hall was elected had been entirely paid off during those six years and a nice balance remained in the treasury to the credit of the University.

Measured from the standpoint of scholarship it was a success. The young men who took their certificates and went out into the world to perform their duties as citizens and as gentlemen certainly met every expectation; so that from this point of view it was a success. As to attendance, as I have said, it was a success. So that I say to you that the first six years of Dr. Hall's administration compare favorably with any six years of the institution previous to that time.

As compared with the circumstances connected with the administrations of former Presidents, the next six years of Dr. Hall's administration were surrounded with abnormal conditions. A great Civil War had come on and had occupied four of the six years that he continued at the head of this University.

The Miami boys were patriotic then as they have always been. Upon the first call for troops in 1861 nearly all of the students enlisted and went to the front, the greater portion of them in what was known as the University Rifles, commanded

by a young, dashing and popular member of the senior class. In 1862 another call was made, and thirty-six additional students enlisted in the cause of their country, and under the leadership of Professor McFarland they also went to the front. In 1863 an additional call was made, and again a large part of the company went to the front, and joined the 86th Ohio Regiment, with Professor McFarland as field officer. In 1864 an additional call was made, when the one hundred days' men went to the front; and again Miami University responded to the call. Many of her students went into other organizations. Many young men who were patriotic did not come to the institution because they felt that their duty called them in defense of their country; and for that reason the number of students decreased at that time. This decrease in numbers meant a decrease in the finances of the Miami University. Dr. Hall was prompt to report the condition, and in 1865 he made the board acquainted with all the conditions of the University, and intimated that he was ready at any time to lay down the responsible position which he held. But he was continued for another year. In October, 1865, a resolution was adopted by the board declaring all of the Chairs vacant at the close of the college year. Dr. Hall promptly notified the board that he did not desire to continue longer at the head of this great college, and at the end of that year his administration passed into the history of the University; a record that was honorable to Dr. Hall on account of the faithful way in which he had performed his duty. It was honorable to the faculty which so ably supported him during the twelve years that he was President of Miami University. It was honorable alike to the Board of Trustees who so nobly and loyally supported Dr. Hall during his time. I am not speaking of the entire Board of Trustees, for I am sorry to say that there was a minority that seemed to oppose Dr. Hall, no difference whether he was right, or whether he was wrong. I am sorry that such a condition of affairs should have existed in the college; but such was the case, and it was one of the reasons why Dr. Hall's administration possibly was not successful.

But the main feature is the one that I have mentioned, that is to say, the patriotism of the boys in this college who went to the front in the time of the country's need. Other colleges, of course, suffered from the same cause; but none suffered more than did Miami University. All honor to Miami University for the part she took in the great struggle between the States, in which the very life of the country was in jeopardy.

It is not necessary for me to go further; it is not necessary for me to express an opinion. I always felt that the administration of Dr. Hall, measured by the ordinary standard, the standard that existed from 1854 to 1860, was a remarkably prosperous and successful administration; and I think I am not asking too much when I urge that when you weigh the administration of Dr. Hall you will weigh it not under the abnormal conditions that existed from 1860 to 1866, but that you will weigh it under the conditions that existed from 1854 to 1860.

Then I say again, as I said before, all honor to Dr. Hall, and all honor to the boys of Miami who, notwithstanding the fact that they weakened the condition of the University gave it strength in another way by proving their patriotism to their country!

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## THE STANTON ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by ALSTON ELLIS, Ph.D., LL.D., '67.  
President of Ohio University.

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This is not designed to be a life sketch of the distinguished clergyman and scholar who for five years occupied the executive chair at Miami University.

In a brief article, as this must necessarily be, not much can be added to what was so well set down in the readable sketch prepared by the Rev. David R. Moore, D.D., for the "Diamond Anniversary Volume" published by authority of the University in 1899.

In addition to this source of information, the one interested can find much that might properly go into a biographical sketch of Dr. Stanton in the Presbyterian Encyclopedia, p. 854. Interesting viewpoints of the Stanton administration can be gained by a reading of President Stanton's Inaugural Address delivered on June 27, 1867—Commencement Day—at the close of his first year's connection with the University, and what may be termed his Farewell Address sent out, in May, 1871, to the members of the Board of Trustees under the heading "Circular—Confidential."

Only a limited use of the printed material before named will be made in the paragraphs that follow.

When Dr. Stanton came to Miami, in his 57th year, he was physically and intellectually at his best. He had had twenty-six years of professional experience behind him. He had served acceptably as pastor of Presbyterian churches most of this time. His experience in college work, as professor and executive, had covered but seven years.

Although a **preacher** is in a good sense of the word a **teacher**, yet intelligent people now recognize, if they did not in those days, that the two terms are not interchangeable. It is no injustice to Dr. Stanton to say that while he had great power of expression in the pulpit he had not strong teaching power in the classroom before a body of college students. I am of opinion, also, that his executive power was not strongly marked.

Before the financial rescue of Miami came, the executive of that institution was indeed a burden-bearer. The weight of work he attempted to sustain might well have rested upon three sets of shoulders instead of one. The University sadly needed wisely-directed field work, but what was done in this way was by executive action hampered by call of home duties that would not be denied. Legislative work was as necessary then as now, but there was no one who had time, if possessing inclination and ability, to direct it.

In my Junior and Senior years, I attended classes in **eleven** different branches of study, instruction in which was given by the President of the University. Within the time

named, I heard not less than seventy sermons delivered in the University Chapel by the executive head of the institution. The daily chapel service was under the immediate direction of the President. The Faculty members participated actively in these exercises to the extent of offering an occasional prayer. These exercises impressed many students as being somewhat perfunctory in their nature—sure it is that the student attendance upon them generally was. Many of us occupying benches set apart for the use of students were so familiar with the prayers we heard that we could repeat them *verbatim*.

Dr. Stanton came to Miami at the opening of a new college-year in 1866, succeeding Dr. John W. Hall, who had been retired from the presidency of the institution after twelve years of united professorial and executive service. The students of that time well knew that Dr. Hall's retirement was a forced one. I do not think we, as students, understood the causes that led the Board of Trustees to dismiss one executive and install another in his place. Our impression was that Dr. Hall's retirement had been effected by the triumph of partisan malice and other unworthy motives. Whether or not this were true, the effect of its belief by a large portion of the student body caused widespread student disapproval of the Board's action. This boded ill for the successful opening of the new administration.

At the close of Dr. Hall's administration, the annual catalogue recorded the names of 176 different students. The student enrollment at the close of Dr. Stanton's first term of service was 137—a falling off of more than 22 per cent in a single year. This was a partial measure of the extent of student dissatisfaction. There was no student ill will towards Dr. Stanton. His predecessor was a kindly, companionable man whom the students respected and loved. Their high regard for the retiring officer made them partly blind to the many excellent qualities of the incoming one.

Dr. Stanton was not intimately acquainted with the affairs of Miami—internal or external—when he accepted the presi-

dency of the institution. A single year in office sufficed to open his eyes to both existing theories and conditions. His Inaugural Address was penned with a pretty clear insight into the status and needs of the University. In this address he discussed in plain, forcible language "The Present Condition and Wants of Miami University." He called things aright and asserted that he was not so much of an advocate as to wish to gain a verdict at the expense of truth. He said that he was much of an optimist, one "apt to be sanguine rather than despondent."

In referring to Ohio's neglect of her two universities, he asserted that some there were who seemed content to have the State stand at the foot of the roll as the patron of higher education. The following sentence gives the pith, the central thought, of the address and in it is something prophetic of what has recently come to pass: "Give me the money—I ask nothing more—and I will build you a college or university in any suitable place, with ample buildings, libraries, apparatus, cabinets, with the ablest corps of instructors the times can furnish, and with students crowding all its departments."

Referring to means for securing money he said: "I assume at once that Miami University will never receive a dollar from the State." He recorded his conviction that any appeal to the churches for financial aid would prove unavailing. As a last resort, an appeal to the citizens of Oxford and Oxford township and to the University Alumni was strongly urged.

This was the condition of things at the end of the first year of the Stanton administration; a marked decrease in the student attendance, a low treasury with no adequate revenue in sight, practical repudiation of the institution by both State and Church, a Board membership with elements of dissatisfaction with the results of the year's work, and a discouraged executive who was beginning to feel himself unable to overcome the difficulties by which he was surrounded.

Were the five years of Dr. Stanton's administration years of success or failure? I hope I violate no confidence when I

quote from a letter recently received by me from Mr. Robert B. Stanton, of New York City, a worthy son of an honored father:

"The fact is my father's administration was a singular and complete failure, both for himself and the University. He left Miami a broken-hearted and sorrowful man. This failure was not the fault of my father, nor was it the fault of the University. It was caused by bringing together at an unfortunate time two elements diametrically opposed to each other that could not properly combine."

I am not prepared to admit that the Stanton administration was a failure. It was as successful as any one in like position could have made it. Dr. Stanton, as has been said before, was a **preacher**. He had never shown, prior to his induction into office at Miami, conspicuous ability as a **teacher** or **business** man.

The Board of Trustees demanded a **preacher** to fill the executive chair and it got in liberal measure just what it set out to secure.

Dr. Stanton compared favorably with his predecessors in office in all the qualifications in his day deemed most necessary to fit one to fill acceptably the executive chair of an educational institution like Miami. He failed to secure financial support from either Church or State. Others in like circumstances had failed before him. The "endowment fund" did not come at his asking. It is extremely doubtful whether any one else could have made solicitation for financial aid with better result. There was no lowering of scholastic standards, no weakening of moral fiber, no dimming of the view to high ideals of manhood within the student body, as long as Dr. Stanton held post at Miami.

A large student enrollment is not always a **sure** indication of institutional well-being. Gauged by the enrollment record, Dr. Stanton's administration was successful beyond that of others who have had more credit than he received for executive work. Throughout the period covered by Dr. Stanton's administration, Dr. Solomon Howard, D.D., LL.D., occupied

the executive chair at Ohio University, at Athens. Ohio and Miami had similar conditions about them in those days—as they yet have. Dr. Howard had no unusually unfriendly forces against which to contend. State and Church were indifferent alike to the future of the institutions at Athens and Oxford. The time for both institutions for a temporary closing of their doors was not far ahead. It is now evident that the presence of students in any considerable number was not to be expected at either institution. The following record of student enrollment at Ohio and Miami makes an interesting study and serves to show that Miami, under Dr. Stanton's presidency, was not lagging behind her sister institution at Athens:

#### Enrollment of Students.

Year.	Miami.	Ohio.
1866	176	243
1867	137	176
1868	186	128
1869	157	117
1870	152	105
1871	139	121
1872	106	110
1873	86	100

At the close of the second year of Dr. Stanton's administration, the enrollment of students reached what may be termed the "high-water mark." Had the close of the second year of administrative work found State, Board of Trustees, and Alumni working with the executive, as it was right to expect them to do, a bright era for Miami would have been ushered in then and there. It was not until 1903 that the student enrollment at Miami reached a higher number than that recorded for 1868. Some able men occupied the executive chair at Miami between the closing of the Stanton administration and the beginning of that of Dr. Benton, but they failed, one and all, to secure an enrollment of different students, in any one year, in excess of 148. Dr. Stanton was the peer of any of these men and merits a place beside the most

worthy of them in the estimation of every well-wisher of this noble old institution, the hundredth anniversary of whose founding we are now celebrating.

With lagging energy and discouraged spirit, Dr. Stanton continued in office until it became evident that the unfavorable conditions connected with his administration could not, by him, be removed. This was in the spring of 1871. A pamphlet headed "Circular—Confidential," and addressed "To the Board of Trustees," was prepared, for limited distribution, by Dr. Stanton in May, 1871. It was the forerunner of his resignation of the high office which he had held five years. In accepting that resignation, June 27, 1871, the Board of Trustees, by appropriate resolutions, made record of the faithful manner in which Dr. Stanton had performed his executive duties and the heavy sacrifices he had made for the University.

With Dr. Stanton's life after he left the halls of Miami University, this sketch has nothing to do. The incidents of that life, until its close in 1885, are recorded elsewhere.

The writer did not know Dr. Stanton intimately. Few of the students, in that first year of his administration, did. He was not a man to wear his heart upon his sleeve for daws to peck at. Few of us ever fathomed the depth of feeling that lay beneath that calm, dignified exterior. We know now that his was a deeply sensitive nature, and we can imagine how rudely it was shaken at times by the exigencies of the position he filled.

Dr. Stanton was a thoroughly conscientious man, supremely loyal to his convictions of honor and duty. He desired the good will of his fellows, but he would pay no ignoble price to secure it. Where right, as he saw it, pointed the way he directed his footsteps with inflexible resolution. His was a strong, manly, and withal, generous, character. His "Circular" was evidently written under great stress of mind. In it he uses plain language in describing the "ins and outs" of his administration. Occasionally a feeling of resentment crops out in his sentences, but almost immediately there-

after there is a qualifying phrase almost apologetic in its nature. Altogether the "Circular" is not unworthy of its author, although the propriety and necessity for its publication might be called in question. It must be remembered, however, that a man's good name and professional standing are and ought to be very dear to him. To seek to vindicate his course is the natural desire of every one who has been subject to unjust charges and misinterpretation of motive.

No page of Miami's splendid history will be blurred by a truthful report of the administration of Dr. Stanton. That report may not be crowded with glowing details of one success after another, but it will be a recital of honest efforts put forth by one well worthy to hold the exalted station he filled.

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## THE HEPBURN ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by HON. FRANCIS M. COPPOCK, '73.

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It is my pleasure, as it has been made my duty, to say a few words in reference to what is known on our banners as "The Hepburn Administration." The Hepburn Administration was the longest administration that ever existed in Miami University. Professor Hepburn was elected to the Chair of English Literature in 1868, and his term closed last June. He served in administering the educational affairs of this institution as no other man served. Therefore I do not propose to stand here and confine his administration to two years.

As I recollect it there was very little pomp and circumstance took place here when Professor Hepburn was made President of this University. No doubt he was handed the keys. I do not recollect whether he was or not. But he had what to him was ten times more important than any symbol of authority; he had the key to the heart of every student that had ever been under his care. President Hepburn, or Professor Hepburn as we preferably called him, served longer than any other man as an administrative officer of this Uni-

versity. He was elected President, so the records show, although when I was asked to say a word in regard to his administration I really did not know he had an administration as President, he came in so quietly, he was so modest, and he went out so quietly, that as a student here I did not know anything about his inauguration or anything except when our class graduated we said, "It is all over, the University is done—closed!"

During those two years that he was the so-called administrative head of this University there were two classes graduated, '72 and '73. The Class of '73 had been more or less engaged during their whole college term in looking after the Class of '72. There were in the University at that time some very bad fellows, not wicked at heart, but who gave the administration and the defenders of the administration a very great deal of trouble. Some of them are here to-day. They are principally ministers, as I recollect them, and I have had the opportunity of voting the Degree of D.D. to two or three of them, which I did without saying anything about what I knew they had done, because if they were willing to reform and do what was right I was willing to give them the degree—because it did not cost the University anything.

Now one of those fellows, I had this experience with him which will show you what kind of a fellow he was, when I was in the class ahead of him. When I got through with my sophomore books he appropriated them. I went to him one day and asked him why he did that. He said he needed them because he was in that class now and he needed those books. Well, he did not return them, but long years afterward, possibly twenty-five years, I went into a restaurant one day in Cincinnati, and I saw a man sitting with a large group of men over in the corner, and he motioned to me, and said, "Coppock, come over here." I went over and he introduced me. I believe they called it a session of his church or something, they were sitting there around the table. I called him to one side and said, "Now, look here, if you bring those books back that you took away from me at Miami, I will not give you away to your session. If you do not I will tell them all about it

right away." He said, "That's all right, you just tell them." Thereupon he told them. Now that is one of the class I think of '72 with which we had a very great deal of trouble; but we managed to get rid of them, and when the year of '73 came we were graduated. Some member of our class said that he always felt that during his whole college course that while the University had stood sponsor for the class up to that time, that he felt certain that when we went, the thing would have to end. I remember that Judge Gilmore announced that the University would close.

That was the close of Professor Hepburn's so-called administration. Professor Hepburn was elected in 1868 to the Professorship of English Literature in this University. He served until last year. Twenty-eight years of his life was given to the service of this University. No man during my time contributed more to the success of the University than did Professor Hepburn. In his consultations and his aid and help in the class-room he commanded the respect of every student; and he had that regard of the students that made them hesitate to say in his presence a thing that they thought might hurt his feelings. He was a man very near their hearts. He was the friend of the students, and they recognized him as such, and have always shown it. All that has been best in all of the administrations since 1868 in my judgment is in a large part due to the influence in this institution of Andrew D. Hepburn. The only painful thing to me today is that he is not here to celebrate this foundation of our University; but it was not to be so. He is in California, as I understand it, living very pleasantly and rid of the labor and toil that was necessary here; but I am satisfied that there is no alumnus of this University and no friend of the University who wishes it greater prosperity in the future than does Professor Hepburn.

## THE MCFARLAND ADMINISTRATION.

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Letter by SAMUEL W. TOWNSEND, '89.

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No one will deny that it is a great task to start a new college. Is it not as great a task to revive an old one?

When President R. W. McFarland arrived at Oxford from the Ohio State University, where he had held the chair of higher mathematics and astronomy, no doubt he had fear in his heart in undertaking to start the new Miami on a career that would compare favorably with that of the glorious Miami which the world has recognized as a power in the land, and which the entire Nation is lauding today. And, too, how seldom is due credit given to the organizer and to the beginner of things! We are apt to praise the successful man who is in charge today, and to forget those who have gone before and who have given their best years and best endeavors that such a celebration as this one might be possible.

I can recall the confusion of dodging the carpenters and the plasterers in 1885 and 1886 as the work of reconstruction progressed, and that classes were heard first in this room and then that one during the process of rearrangement. The number of students was small, quite small, and not only professors but also students vied with each other in their efforts to increase the enrollment. Lectures were given by some of the professors in neighboring towns to advertise the institution and to attract a larger attendance.

The faculty, for the most part, was made up of the best talent obtainable. Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Literature and History were taught with an earnestness and thoroughness that were unexcelled. Sciences and the modern languages needed some pushing at this old home of classical instruction. Looking back now I can make no serious criticism of the personnel of the faculty during the McFarland administration; but, it does occur to me that a few of the professors were pretty young, so young as to be taken for students—something

to be resented, of course, especially when one or two of the said young professors had stolen the students' girls. What fellow can love his teacher amid such trials?

Each year saw a gradual increase in attendance, and in 1888 the first class to be graduated by the New Miami went forth, and I regret to say that only one of the three members of that class is living now. At the close of Dr. McFarland's administration he turned over to his successor a class of seven to be graduated in 1889, and from that time the success of the New Miami has been familiar to all of you.

I am more and more impressed, as I review the incidents of those three years, by the loyalty and faithfulness of both faculty and of students in the face of many annoyances and the lack of proper equipment. We as students felt that a diploma from the Alma Mater of such illustrious sons as were on Miami's alumni roll was a thing to be prized and cherished, and always their examples seemed to take the form of a living presence, and to inspire us to greater effort, in short, a pace had been set for us which we strove to meet. Our literary society halls contained the autographs and memories of great men, and these served to encourage us at our small gatherings. The professors partook of our enthusiasm, and a very close friendship sprang up between many of the students and the professors; this was natural where classes were so small. The student who has missed the gentle words of the beloved Professor Bishop, as he laid his hand on your shoulder saying: "Well, my son, how are you getting along?" has missed something which he could remember as long as life lasts, so profoundly sweet was the commonplace benediction of this grand old man. And, not a few of us found relief in laying our troubles before him then and there.

The fraternities, Phi Delta Theta and Beta Theta Pi, revived their chapters at Miami during the McFarland administration. This was very fitting, indeed, as they were only returning to the institution that gave them birth. These improved the college spirit, except that they seemed to find it necessary to initiate several professors, for the reason, I suppose, that available timber among the student body was

scarce. I am free to say now that this mixture of faculty and students is something I would not approve. While we gained some very desirable members from among the professors, still the intimacy resulting therefrom brought about at times a wrong construction of motives, and also led to some unpleasant misunderstandings.

Dr. McFarland lived a clean, open and upright life, in every day of which the "golden rule" was exemplified. He was always ready and willing to help students whose misfortunes had caused absence and left them behind their classes, and he gave patiently many hours of private instruction to advance them to their places. He appreciated humor, and usually induced a good laugh at each recitation. He was fair to all and considerate of everyone. His thought was of student first and of self last. He worked hard and long for Miami. No man has greater cause to rejoice at this celebration than has Dr. R. W. McFarland, the first President of the New Miami.

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## THE WARFIELD ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by REV. ASBURY E. KROM, D.D., '92.

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I received an invitation last summer from the Secretary of your Alumni Association asking me to travel seven hundred miles and back again to make a five minute speech. I thought it was a joke. I so considered it.

I have been listening to these gentlemen who have preceded me and who have consumed fifteen or twenty minutes in making their speeches, and I see that they also saw the amusing side of the request, and considered the invitation a joke.

So that I shall now proceed to consume the next twelve or fifteen minutes in making a five minute address. I thought when I was marching in the procession this morning accompanied by only one man who represented the Warfield Administration, that it was quite necessary that some one should not only speak for the Warfield Administration but should

even shout for it. If I had the stentorian tones of the honorable Secretary of the Alumni Association, tones which were displayed so excellently a few moments ago, I should proceed for the next ten or fifteen minutes to do some shouting.

I should like to say, Fellow Alumni, that I consider it a great honor to have the privilege of representing an administration that was headed by so fine a scholar and so excellent a type of Christian gentleman as was President Ethelbert Dudley Warfield. I just had occasion to converse for a moment with one of the Trustees of the University. I had occasion to say to him that I believed that there were going to be great changes in the future in relation to our educational institutions, and those changes I believe ultimately will come and I think will come rapidly, when we will have an administrative officer or business manager in connection with every great institution of learning, so that men of such refined scholarship and idealistic character as President Warfield was will be left free to devote themselves to the broader duties of the Presidency of a great institution. I consider it a great honor and a great privilege to represent a man of this type in this connection. While it may be said that the student body was small during his administration, and though they did not numerically count for much, I believe that they included some of the greatest minds that were ever nurtured by any institution that called itself a liberal institution of learning.

I wish I had the time to go into detail in connection with some of these things. I do not want to be accused of contrasting administration with administration. A writer with whom you are all familiar I am sure made a remark which I would like to paraphrase in this connection by saying that while there are many administrations there is only one institution, and the eye has no right to say to the hand "I have no need of thee," and the hand no right to say to the feet, "I have no need of thee." As the illustrious St. Paul has said, there is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, another glory of the stars, and each star differeth from the other in glory, so it is with the administrations of this ancient seat

of learning; and I think it is the glory of the Warfield administration not that it is like unto the last administration, but that these administrations of the past helped to make this present administration possible.

There are two or three things which need to be said in connection with this administration to bring it out into distinct prominence in relation to the administrations that have preceded and followed it.

I ask you to remember for a moment that at the time of the Civil War not only was the slave emancipated, but that many of our American institutions found for the first time their liberty. Among these one of the most noted was our institution that fostered liberal education. I think that is a characteristic that has especially pertained to our western institutions in relation to their curriculum.

You will please remember that President Warfield came to this institution when only three years had intervened between the opening of the institution and his coming to its Presidency. I think the most important duty that rested upon the head of the institution at that time was to formulate a curriculum for the Miami University on a plane so far as the quality of the instruction was concerned with any other institution in the land; and as long as this institution is known as an educational institution it will live as a tribute to the Warfield Administration and especially to him who stood at the head of it; because it was President Warfield that shaped the curriculum and put it on a plane that has made the name of Miami noted ever since.

And he did more than that. Perhaps this was his greatest service. It is not sufficient to simply formulate a curriculum in order to make a great institution of learning. One of the most brilliant professors in one of our Western institutions said to me before I left the East, "The most forcible criticisms on American institutions of learning today is that the subject and not the man rules in the Professor's Chair; in other words, that men are being called to professorships to our American

Universities and to other institutions of learning throughout the world on their reputation as possessing encyclopaedic knowledge, and they have to live up to their reputations by becoming walking encyclopaedias. I think sometimes that a college faculty can generate more heat and give out less light than any other body of men in society. I defy you to name a faculty that embraces a larger percentage of men of striking personality, of men who have stood higher in this respect than such men as Johnson, Bridgeman, Merrill and Warfield.

Men are known by the company that they keep; an institution of learning is known by the atmosphere it creates. It is not the curriculum after all that distinguishes one institution from another, it is the undefinable spirit of the institution. That which distinguishes Miami University from every other institution in this land is not its curriculum or its faculty after all. That which distinguishes Miami University from all other institutions is its spirit, and the spirit which it succeeds in infusing into the men who participate in its course; and we believe that Miami University in this broad Republic has no superior, simply because we believe that its spirit is unexcelled. And it takes more than brick and mortar, it takes more than numbers of students, it takes more than curriculum and faculty to create such an atmosphere. It takes the personality of strong individualized men.

So I would sum up the results of this administration which I represent in terms other than those which relate to curriculum, but which rather relate to the character of its men and its administrators and to the excellent atmosphere which they succeed in creating.

We cannot tell what the Miami of the future is going to be; but I am sure of this, that the Miami of the future will not fulfill the desires that we have for her unless she furnishes the most favorable soil and environment for the seeds sown in the past by such administrations as that which I represent, and bring those seeds to their flower and their fruit.

## THE THOMPSON ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by EMORY LEROY FERRIS, '98.

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The Class of '98, to which I had the honor to belong, was conspicuously speechless. Even on the notable occasion of our graduation we were content to look wise and maintain a discreet silence. The commencement audience on that warm June day seemed equally content, and even delighted, with our heroic modesty. But notwithstanding our lack of distinction as orators I am grateful for the opportunity to speak on this occasion, for I should be unworthy of my class and unworthy of my day and generation in college if I did not respond gladly and heartily to a toast to the administration of President William O. Thompson.

Every administration of this institution has doubtless contributed much to the achievements of which we are all so proud today. Each has had its own trials and problems and has successfully surmounted its peculiar obstacles. We desire not to contrast one with another or to praise one at the expense of another, but only to publicly express our appreciation of each, and our gratitude to the men who have made all Miami's history admirable. For my part I hope only to voice in some measure the loyalty and enthusiasm of the men of the nineties, and if I seem to speak arrogantly of the men of the nineties and thus offend some fair daughter of Old Miami, I beg a thousand pardons.

When Dr. Thompson came to Oxford the University was still somewhat under the shadow of that unfortunate period of suspension. Progress had been made since the re-opening, but the longed-for return of the glory of the fifties was a slow process and there had been time for a waning of enthusiasm. The success of the new president was vital to the future of the school. Under such conditions the choice of the trustees seems to have been directed by Providence. Dr. Thompson was singularly well equipped for the office. He brought to the Presidency a thorough knowledge of men, a wisdom broad and practical, a genius for organization and a compelling energy.

I well remember my own impressions of the President during my first year in college. They were doubtless the impressions of most students of the time. He was not conspicuous. There were few occasions when he assumed a position of prominence. But we soon discovered that he was behind everything. There was no activity of college life, no interest of the students individually or collectively, that he was not thoroughly familiar with and interested in. His influence permeated everything and his energy seemed the motive power of the whole institution. Without seeming to interfere in student affairs he was the inspiration of all that was good and the tactful discouragement of all that was undesirable.

In my opinion Dr. Thompson is endowed with rare genius in the delicate art of making boys into men. During his administration the youngest Freshman knew that in the President's dealings with him he would be treated as a man. It gave him a new dignity, a new sense of responsibility. He was ambitious to live up to this novel consideration of himself. And he was inspired by a daily example of superb manliness. It was a common saying among the students of the time that somehow Dr. Thompson didn't seem like a preacher. And without charging those students with a lack of respect for the clergy, most of you, as you recall the mental attitude of your boyhood, will agree with me that this was a sincere and significant compliment. To be sure we never forgot that he was a preacher. Indeed we were proud of him because he was such an uncommon good preacher. But in him the man loomed larger than the preacher, and his manliness gave an added power and dignity to his sacred calling.

This administration was characterized by business methods and careful system in all executive details, and the President was an exceedingly hard-working man. Yet he could always find time to listen to the troubles of the individual student and had an unusual capacity for seeing things from the point of view of the younger man. Thus he was always, not only easily approachable, but intelligently sympathetic. In the Fall of '97 we had an exceptionally strong football

team but for one weak spot in the line, and I recall with what unanimity the squad declared that if we could only get the good Doctor to learn the signals and train down a bit he would make the best guard in Southern Ohio.

This personal relation between the President and the individual student—the confidence of the latter in, and enthusiastic admiration for, the former, and the splendid influence of the former in the life of the latter—was, to my mind, the greatest achievement of this administration. Admirable consequences were inevitable. The school and student body became imbued with the spirit and ideals of the President. A larger number of students was desirable but a high standard of scholarship was indispensable. And high standards were as applicable to athletics, to social life and fraternity activity, as to scholarship. Knowledge was worth working for but it mattered more what a man was than what he knew. He was most worth while who developed most widely and thoroughly his capacity for useful service. These were some of the things the men of the nineties learned from the President.

The growth of the school and the improvement in its equipment during his administration are matters of record and need not be recited here. The gymnasium and athletic field were acquired and the Board of Athletic Control was organized, but—what was more important—Miami's athletics were put upon a strictly amateur basis and the use of "ringers" was discontinued. Some of us remember when Miami's football line was strengthened by Mustin and the butcher whom nothing short of a complete outfit of football togs could disguise as students in a college of liberal arts, and that painful occasion when a member of an opposing baseball team was amazed to discover, upon inquiry, that the Miami pitcher didn't even know the name of the Miami left fielder. But we outgrew those things in the nineties, and now we can all rejoice in Miami's athletic victories as cleanly and honestly won.

After some eight years of faithful and efficient service here Dr. Thompson became the head of Ohio's largest State school. In our loyalty to Miami we have been tempted to regard that school as her rival and perhaps to begrudge it the service of a President whom we valued so highly. But surely that is an unworthy spirit. Let us rather congratulate a sister institution upon having that leadership, the worth of which we so well know.

And now, with confidence of an heartfelt response, I call upon you all, as loyal sons and daughters and friends of Miami to join with us of the nineties in a tribute of affectionate admiration and profound gratitude to William O. Thompson, our former president, who gave eight of the best years of his life to the devoted service of our alma mater, and to whose wisdom, energy, faithfulness and inspiring manliness she, and we all, owe so much.

I wish I had time to pay a fitting tribute to the faculty of the Thompson Administration. For each of them I have a grateful affection. They were exceptional in qualification and in faithfulness, and much credit for the progress and achievements of these years belongs to them. The extent and value of their influence upon the lives of their students can never be measured, but to each of them Miami and all loyal Miami men and women owe a debt of appreciation and gratitude.

And the students of those years—it is my belief that a finer body of undergraduates, judged by quality rather than numbers, seldom, if ever, graced the halls of this grand old school. From Oxford I went to Harvard for three years in the Law School, and much as I admire that wonderful University, I have always been thankful that my undergraduate days were spent at Miami. For genuine democracy, sincerity, enthusiasm and manliness, I have never known finer men than those of my college days here in dear old Oxford. In their behalf I now salute the Miami of today and offer her our heartfelt congratulations, our pledge of continued loyalty and our affectionate God-speed as she enters upon her second century of service and achievement.

## THE TAPPAN ADMINISTRATION.

Response by REV. JOHN C. PARRETT, '01.

When I was invited a few weeks ago to respond to this toast I began to wonder what I would say. When I saw the program I feared that all my thunder would be stolen away before my time came; but speaker after speaker rose and did not touch upon the points which I hoped to consider until it came to the turn of my good friend Krom and he began to talk about the Miami spirit, the spirit that marks undergraduates and which has made Miami what she is. He got some of my thunder.

And when my friend Ferris began to speak about the student body, the men that made Miami in the later '90's, he also took some of my thunder—and I have not very much left.

It is with pleasure, however; that as a member of the Class of 1901 I respond to this toast, the administration of David Stanton Tappan. I can well remember the consternation that filled the heart of every undergraduate of our institution ten years ago at that diamond anniversary, when it was announced that William O. Thompson had been taken away from us by the Ohio State University, and how eagerly we inquired who was to be the next President. We were informed that it was to be an alumnus of our own institution, a man whom we knew as a great preacher and as a Christian gentleman; and as we came to know Doctor Tappan this opinion was deepened. We say he was indeed a great preacher and a Christian gentleman.

In the fall of 1900 when the dread typhoid germ made its presence known here, and when so many of our number fell sick, and when death visited the University and took away several of the undergraduates, even visited the home of the President himself, we came to admire the heroism of the man.

The man who could stand in his place, who could do his duty, and who could hold the University together in that crisis, was indeed a man; and while his administration was not marked by great growth in numbers, not marked by in-

creased appropriations, and while as yet we do not know of any Presidents, or Governors, or Senators, who were turned out by that administration, yet we feel that in the character of the man who was our President we had a grand example of a Christian gentleman, who could do his duty as best he might under any circumstances.

I would like also to pay a word of tribute to the character of the Faculty of Miami University during those years; for I think Miami was very fortunate, more fortunate than most state universities, in the character of the men who were instructing the undergraduates in its halls.

We forget our Greek and Latin during the course of years; we forgot our logarithms and the other "isms" that we learned, but we do not forget the character of the men that instructed us in those years that we spent here.

I remember the character of Doctor Tappan himself; how Dr. Hepburn, and all the other members of the faculty, every one of them, as Christian gentlemen, made their impression upon the student body—an impression that has proved to be indelible as the years go by.

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## THE BENTON ADMINISTRATION.

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Response by WILLIAM A. TRIMPE, '08.

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You have just heard the record of a splendid century, and now it becomes my pleasant duty to tell you something of the spirit of the present administration, an administration which has occupied the last seven years of this century, and which I am quite sure all of us very much desire shall occupy all of the coming century.

There has always been to me as a student of the history of Miami a seeming paradox which was not explained until this very day, when a reading of the records of the institution reveals the fact that from its very beginning it was hampered and embarrassed by a lack of substantial support of the kind

which would enable its President and its administrators to furnish to the students who came here for an education the most simple and essential equipment; and I have often wondered how it was that being so hampered for the lack of material means this institution had been able to take the place that it has in the history of the Nation. I have often wondered how it was that under these conditions Miami University has given to this country and to the world a larger percentage of really eminent men in the greatest possible number and widest variety of avocations than perhaps any other institution in the country.

But I understand the paradox now. I have learned from listening to the twenty or thirty congratulatory and felicitous addresses to which we have listened today, that the reason that Miami has been able to assume the place in the educational, the political and the social world that she has filled for the last one hundred years has been because of the magnificent and sturdy character of her Presidents and of her teachers. Notwithstanding the lack of the physical requisites and the equipment which we now-a-days regard as absolutely essential, these men of splendid brain, splendid heart and wonderful enthusiasm; these men of rare tact; these great teachers have been able to bring under their influence the boys who have come here, and to stamp upon the waxen hearts of youth an indelible impress which has constituted ample resources of enthusiasm, and which has preserved to the college a source of high ideals which throughout all their lives would enable the men who have gone out from the halls of Old Miami to make an indelible impress upon the history of the Nation and upon the history of the world.

I consider it not the least compliment which I can pay to Dr. Benton—and it is perhaps the notable characteristic of the Benton Administration—that he has been able to employ first of all that splendid personal interest in his students, coupled with the ability and character to make those impressions upon them which count in life. He has coupled with this disposition the ability to make the State of Ohio

and the people of the State of Ohio recognize and discharge their obligation to this institution to furnish it with the physical means to carry on its work in an adequate and successful manner.

We have heard used today a number of times the terms "The Old" and "The New Miami." I regret that we make such a differentiation. There is only one Miami. The Miami of today is the Miami of the splendid century just now gone. Its spirit is the same, and shall ever so remain. The only difference, as I said, is that Dr. Benton has won from the State an adequate support.

What more can we ask? Have we a right to expect any more of Miami University than that she should continue to be the same kind of institution she has always been? And this I might say is the chief ideal of the present administration. The Doctor has recently written a book, which perhaps some of you have seen, in which he has portrayed with some detail his idea of the Real College.

The time is one of vast prosperity. Men of great wealth have made it a habit, as it were, to endow with millions and millions of money their favorite institutions of learning. Wonderful buildings have grown up with enormous laboratories and equipment of all kinds. We have institutions that receive under their roof-trees thousands and thousands of students—great and marvelous machines which grind out every year experts in every walk and vocation of life; institutions having hundreds and hundreds of men upon their faculties, and that offer hundreds of courses to the students that come to them.

These, however, are not the sort of colleges which Dr. Benton, and I believe all Miami Alumni, look forward to as the future destiny of this institution.

The distinctive quality of Miami, as has been already said, has been that it has had a certain definite and distinctive spirit. That spirit has resulted from the fact that the students who come here have been able to get into such close personal



contact with men of the character of those who have always been at the head of the institution. That has resulted in a close family relationship, so to speak, because of which they developed the ability to become citizens in the widest sense of the word, because of the fact that in this relationship each man has had an opportunity to develop all that was within him and prepare himself to assume his full responsibility in the conduct of the affairs of the institution, and to secure the point of view which is absolutely necessary for a citizen to have, that unselfish, co-operative point of view which fits him to assume his proper place in the affairs of the State and of the world.

I believe, if I interpret the spirit of Dr. Benton's administration correctly, that that is to continue to be the distinctive field of Miami University in the future as it has always been in the past, to give to its students that enthusiasm, that appreciation of their duty as citizens, and that ability to co-operate with their fellow students, and later on with their fellow citizens, in every walk of life, which will enable Miami to do as she has always done, furnish leaders in every cause. The close of this century marks, of course, the beginning of a new. Founded when this commonwealth was a wild frontier and this Nation without the wonderful prestige that she now has in the nations of the world, when this country and State was in its infancy, Miami has kept pace with its development and contributed marvelously to it.

Today we are a wonderfully complex civilization. We face the opening of a new century. Doctor Benton is at the helm of Miami. Our opportunity is here. Advantage will be taken of it; and when one hundred years from today the sons and daughters of Miami assemble to celebrate her second century of growth, I believe it will then be said as it has been said today, that Miami has always fulfilled her high destiny; and I believe that the subject of my toast will be spoken of as much as dear and venerable old Doctor Bishop, as the man who gave it the impetus which sent it on down the years and enabled it to do its great and good work.